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County Borough of Barrow-in-Furness

Annual Report

of the

Medical Officer of Health

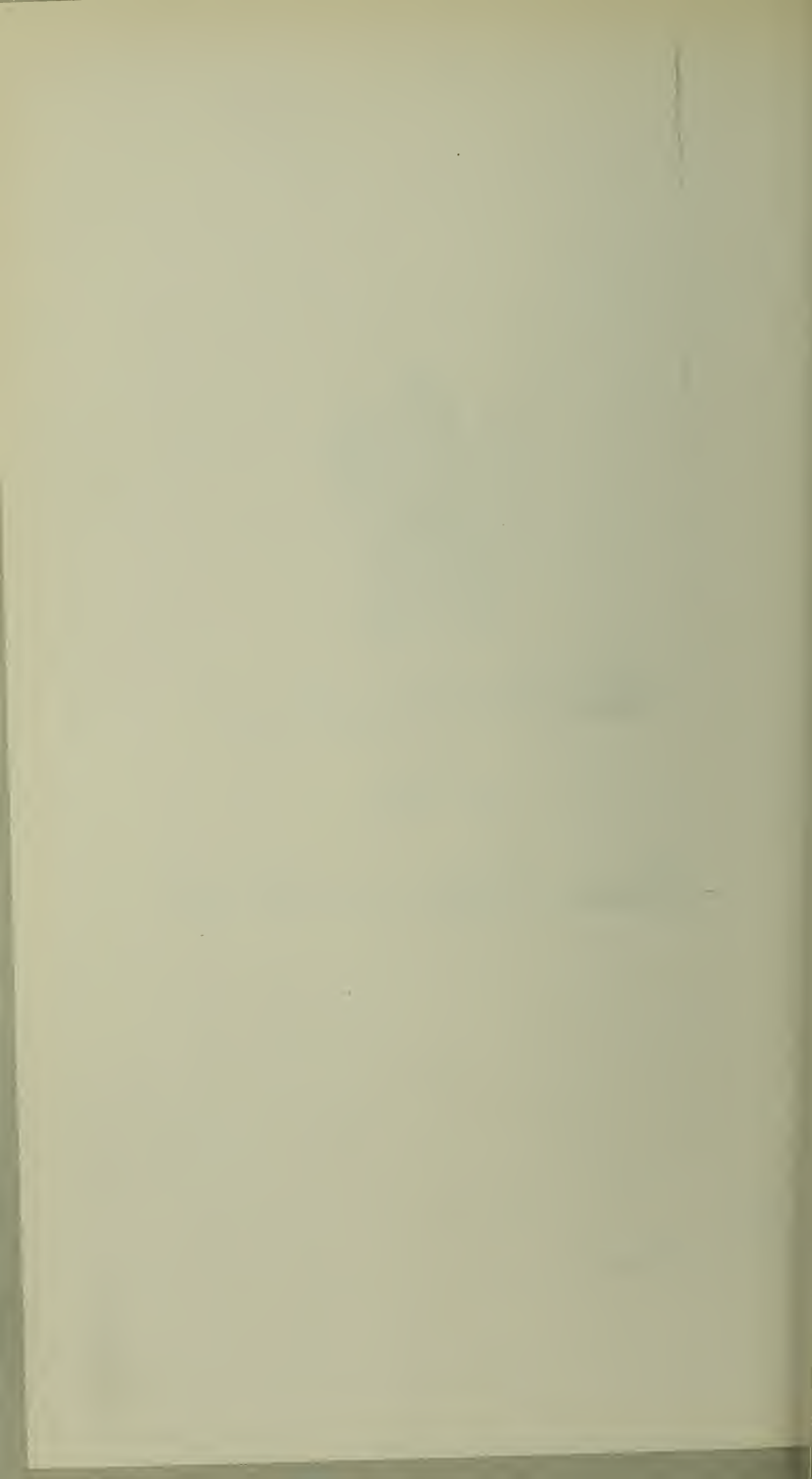
JAMES MACLACHLAN,
M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

1954.



*With the Compliments
of the
Medical Officer of Health*

*Hall,
Barrow-in-Furness.*



CONTENTS

| | |
|------------------------------------|----|
| 1. VITAL STATISTICS. | 6 |
| 2. GENERAL PUBLIC HEALTH. | 7 |
| 3. PORT HEALTH. | 10 |
| 4. ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH | 15 |
| 5. LOCAL HEALTH SERVICES. | 33 |
| 6. NATIONAL ASSISTANCE, ACT, 1948. | 45 |

COUNTY BOROUGH OF BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.
1954.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH
COMMITTEE.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting the Annual Report on the health of the Borough for the year 1954.

Once again the Infant Mortality Rate is the lowest yet recorded. The number of deaths from Tuberculosis was also small but there was a rise in the number of corrected notifications of this disease due to a survey carried out by a Mass Miniature Radiography Unit during the latter half of the year, the results of which are contained in this report. Clinical trials of Influenza Vaccine sponsored by the Medical Research Council and conducted in the Borough formed the basis of an Influenza Spotting Scheme in which local general practitioners and the Public Health Department co-operated admirably.

The mobile clinic, which continues to be a subject of interest to many other local authorities, has proved a popular service and there has been a marked increase in clinic attendances.

Following upon the closure of the local offices of the Ministry of Food at the end of June, responsibility for the distribution of national welfare foods was undertaken by the Public Health Department, as part of its duties under the National Health Service. The foods concerned are national dried milk, orange juice, cod liver oil and Vitamin A and D Tablets.

Towards the end of the year a public cleansing unit was put into operation to meet the need of persons and property requiring disinfection.

Additional work is now being carried out by the Sanitary Inspectors in respect of the Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954, which came into operation in August of this year. Under this Act if the condition of a controlled house is in dispute the tenant can apply to the local authority for a Certificate of Disrepair. On receipt of this application the house is inspected by a Sanitary Inspector and a report is submitted thereon to the Housing Committee. Additional work was also undertaken as a result of the de-control of meat supplies in July, 1954, when the whole of the administration and control of the Public Abattoirs reverted to the Corporation. A new administrative arrangement which has proved satisfactory was the combination of the post of Sanitary Inspector for Meat Inspection with that of Abattoir Superintendent.

Several staff changes occurred during the year. Particular mention should be made of Miss White, a very competent and enthusiastic Superintendent of the Home Nursing Service, who accepted the offer of promotion elsewhere. Mr. Gawthrop, Chief Clerk, who had ably served in the Department for 19½ years resigned to enter private industry. The sudden death of Mr. Kitchin, Duly Authorised Officer, was a further loss to the Department.

I wish to record my thanks to the Health Committee for their support and to my staff for their loyalty, helpfulness and efficiency.

I have the honour to be,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

JAMES MACLACHLAN,

Medical Officer of Health.

STAFF.

The following assistants were employed on the work of Public Health in the Borough at the end of the year under review :

MEDICAL AND DENTAL

| | |
|---|---|
| Deputy Medical Officer of Health in charge of Maternity and Child Welfare Work and Inspector of Midwives | Dorothy G. Stewart, M.B., Ch.B. |
| Assistant Medical Officers | Maude W. Smith, M.D. R. A. H. Morison, M.B., Ch.B. |
| Principal School Dental Officer | Arthur Fielding, L.D.S. (Resigned 3-10-54). Dev Datta Watts, L.D.S. (Appointed 6-12-54). |
| Dental Officer | Winifred G. Sivewright, L.D.S. |

SANITARY

| | |
|--|---|
| Chief Sanitary Inspector | J. Shanks, Cert.R.S.I. & Joint Board, Cert.R.S.I. (Meat and Food Inspection), Cert.R.S.I. (Smoke Inspection). |
| Assistant Chief Sanitary Inspector | H. C. Perkins, Cert. R.S.I. & Joint Board, Cert. R.S.I. (Meat & Food Inspection) |
| Abattoirs and Auction Mart Superintendent | A. A. Kay, Cert. R.S.I. and Joint Board, Cert. R.S.I. (Meat and Food Inspection), Cert. R.S.I. (Smoke Inspection), Cert. R.S.I. (Sanitary Science). |
| Sanitary Inspector for Meat and Food Inspection | Vacant. |
| District Sanitary Inspectors | F. Nickson, Cert.R.S.I. & Joint Board, Cert.R.S.I. (Meat & Food Inspection), F. Holloway, Cert.R.S.I. & Joint Board. J. Spencer, Cert.R.S.I. & Joint Board, Cert.R.S.I. (Meat & Food Inspection). E. T. Swift, Cert.R.S.I. & Joint Board, Cert.R.S.I. (Meat & Food Inspection). R. Wigglesworth, Cert. R.S.I. & Joint Board, Cert. R.S.I. (Meat and Food Inspection). |
| Trainee Sanitary Inspector | T. B. Nuttall. |

HEALTH VISITING AND MIDWIFERY.

| | |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| Superintendent Nursing Officer | Vacant. |
| Health Visitors | Miss E. Cunliffe, S.R.N., S.C.M. Miss M. K. Burns, S.R.N., S.C.M. Mrs. E. M. Tilburn, S.R.N., S.C.M. Miss M. Scott, S.R.N., S.C.M. Miss M. P. Antcliff, S.R.N., S.C.M. Miss A. W. Cant, S.R.N., S.C.M. Miss D. Latham, S.R.N., S.C.M. Miss D. M. Bell, S.R.N. (Resigned 39-9-54) Miss B. M. Wignall, S.R.N. Miss S. B. White, S.R.N., S.C.M., S.R.F.N. (Appointed 1-12-54). |

| | |
|--|--|
| Tuberculosis Health Visitor | Miss R. Ward, S.R.N., S.C.M. |
| Municipal Midwives | Miss A. Bagshaw, S.C.M. Miss G. M. Fytche, S.C.M. Mrs. F. Garstang, S.C.M. Miss D. J. Gaskarth, S.R.N., S.C.M., Q.N. (Resigned 31-7-54). Miss T. Potts, S.R.N., S.C.M. Mrs. M. Railton, S.C.M. Mrs. E. G. Watson, S.C.M. Miss F. Addison, S.R.N., S.C.M. (Appointed 14-1-54). Mrs. A. Fell, S.R.N., R.F.N., S.C.M. (Appointed (temp.) 14-8-54). |
| HOME NURSING SERVICE. | |
| Superintendent | Miss H. M. White, S.R.N., S.C.M., Housekeeping Cert., H.V., Q.N. (Resigned 31-12-54). |
| Assistant Superintendent.... | Miss D. A. Stocks, S.R.N., S.C.M., Q.N. |
| District Nursing Sisters | Miss D. Moscrop, S.R.N., S.C.M., R.F.N., Q.N. Miss J. Lindop, S.R.N. Miss E. M. Jackson, S.R.N., S.C.M. Q.N. Miss M. B. Langley, S.R.N., S.C.M. (Resigned 1-10-54). Mrs. E. Preston, S.R.N. Miss A. T. Goulding, S.R.N. Miss P. Wiper, S.R.N., S.C.M. Miss D. J. Gaskarth, S.R.N., S.C.M., Q.N. (Commenced 1-8-54). Mrs. E. M. Stables, S.R.N. (Commenced 1-11-54). Miss M. Henderson, S.R.N., Q.N. (Resigned 31-10-54). Mrs. M. J. Cringle, S.R.N. (Resigned 31-7-54). Mrs. I. Robson, S.R.N. Mrs. E. Roberts, S.R.N., S.C.M. (Commenced 4-10-54). |
| PHYSIOTHERAPY. | |
| Physiotherapist | Miss M. Johnson, C.S.P., M.E., L.E.T. |
| AMBULANCE SERVICE. | |
| Ambulance Officer | J. H. Smethurst. |
| MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE. | |
| Duly Authorised Officer | H. Kitchin. (Died 11-3-54). H. Hughes. (Appointed 1-4-54). |
| Assistant Duly Authorised Officer | J. Wedgwood. (Appointed 26-7-54). |
| ADMINISTRATION. | |
| Chief Clerk | A. Gawthrop. (Resigned 30-10-54). H. Smith. (Appointed 1-11-54). |
| CLERICAL | |
| Senior Clerk | Vacant. |

ADDRESSES.

| | | | |
|---|------|------|--|
| Public Health Department | .... | .... | Town Hall. |
| Sanitary Inspector's Office | .... | .... | Town Hall. |
| Ante-Natal, Post-Natal and Gynæcological Clinics | .... | .... | Risedale, Abbey Road. |
| M. & C.W. Clinic | .... | .... | } Central Clinic, Abbey Road. |
| Dental Clinic | .... | .... |  |
| U.V.R. & Remedial Exercises Clinic | .... | .... |  |
| Minor Ailments Clinic | .... | .... | "Arndene," Abbey Road. |
| Ambulance Station | .... | .... | Fire Station, Abbey Road. |
| District Nurses' Homes | .... | .... | 2 Fairfield Lane. 27 Mikasa Street. |

VITAL STATISTICS, 1954.

| | | | |
|--|------|------|--------|
| Population, Mid-1953 | .... | .... | 65,470 |
| No. of Deaths | .... | .... | 840 |
| Death Rate | .... | .... | 12.83 |
| No. of Live Births Registered—Legitimate | .... | .... | 1,121 |
| Illegitimate | .... | .... | 38 |
| | | | 1,159 |
| No. of Stillbirths Registered | .... | .... | 34 |
| Birth Rate | .... | .... | 17.70 |
| Illegitimate Births per 1,000 Births | .... | .... | 32.78 |
| Infant Mortality per 1,000 Live Births | .... | .... | 29.34 |
| No. of Live Births Notified | .... | .... | 1,165 |
| No. of Maternal Deaths | .... | .... | 2 |
| Rate per 1,000 Births | .... | .... | 1.73 |
| Percentage of Live Births notified | .... | .... | 100% |
| DEATH RATES. | | | |
| Diphtheria | .... | .... | — |
| Measles | .... | .... | — |
| Scarlet Fever | .... | .... | — |
| Whooping Cough | .... | .... | — |
| Tuberculosis (Respiratory) | .... | .... | 0.107 |
| Tuberculosis (Other Forms) | .... | .... | 0.030 |
| Cancer | .... | .... | 2.337 |
| Bronchitis | .... | .... | 0.535 |
| Pneumonia | .... | .... | 0.458 |
| Influenza | .... | .... | 0.046 |
| Diseases of Circulatory System | .... | .... | 4.949 |

GENERAL PUBLIC HEALTH.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

CORRECTED NOTIFICATIONS FOR 1954

| Disease | Male | Female | Total |
|-------------------------------|------|--------|-------|
| Scarlet Fever | 40 | 31 | 71 |
| Whooping Cough | 29 | 43 | 72 |
| Measles | 39 | 34 | 73 |
| Pneumonia | 8 | 5 | 13 |
| Meningococcal Infection | 3 | — | 3 |
| Puerperal Pyrexia | — | 1 | 1 |
| Erysipelas | — | 2 | 2 |
| Food Poisoning | 3 | 2 | 5 |
| Dysentery | 1 | — | 1 |
| Poliomyelitis Paralytic | 1 | — | 1 |
| Tuberculosis | 47 | 26 | 73 |

Material from suspected infectious cases is examined at the Group Pathological Laboratory, Barrow-in-Furness.

FOOD POISONING

All the five cases of food poisoning notified during the year occurred simultaneously in one family. The symptoms of nausea and sickness lasted only a few hours and the cause of the outbreak was assumed to be casual contamination of prepared food.

TUBERCULOSIS

A Mass Miniature Radiography Unit visited the Borough during the latter half of the year to carry out a survey. Pending detailed statistics of results to be supplied by the Ministry of Health, the following information has been given by the Unit.

| | Male | Female | Total |
|---|--------|--------|--------|
| No. of Miniature Films taken in Barrow | 12,313 | 7,261 | 19,574 |
| No. recalled for large films | 546 | 341 | 887 |
| No. recalled for interviews with Medical Director | 114 | 81 | 195 |
| No. of active cases discovered | 27 | 20 | 47 |

This total of 47 active cases discovered is equal to a rate of 2.4 per 1,000 persons examined.

INFLUENZA

The Medical Research Council Committee on Clinical Trials of Influenza Vaccine planned a large scale trial of three influenza vaccines to commence near the end of the year and continue through the winter months. Volunteer factory workers in Barrow-in-Furness and 16 other areas of the United Kingdom were inoculated and factory doctors conducted a controlled follow-up of the volunteers to observe the causes of illnesses causing absence from work.

In addition the Medical Officers of Health of the same 17 areas were asked if they would be prepared to undertake the task of organising and running a spotting scheme with a view to determining when influenza appears and disappears and to indicating the proportion of infections due to Virus A and Virus B and to showing the pattern of spread of the disease.

The general practitioners in this Borough co-operated admirably and offered their assistance most willingly. Each general practitioner concerned agreed to take one acute and one convalescent stage blood specimen from each of two patients with acute respiratory illnesses, as much like influenza as possible, every week for the duration of the trial and to send away these specimens for testing for influenza antibody.

PUBLIC CLEANSING UNIT

With a view to overcoming the increasing difficulty in obtaining disinfection of persons and property when required, a public cleansing unit (see plan) was put into operation towards the end of the year.

Part of the pram shelter and an out building on the north east side of the Central Clinic were reconstructed at moderate cost to house a Sparkhall Disinfector of 90 cubic feet capacity and a bathroom. A special steriliser fluid containing formaldehyde is vaporised and enters the sterilising chamber as a vapour gas. There is no steam to raise and the disinfector can be operated at short notice by an unskilled person.

VERMINOUS CONDITIONS.

The facilities provided for the School Health Service are extended to children of pre-school age, a proportion of the cost being borne by the Health Committee.

The main conditions dealt with are scabies, head lice and ringworm, and these receive treatment at the Central Clinic. Stubborn cases are referred to the Skin Department at North Lonsdale Hospital.

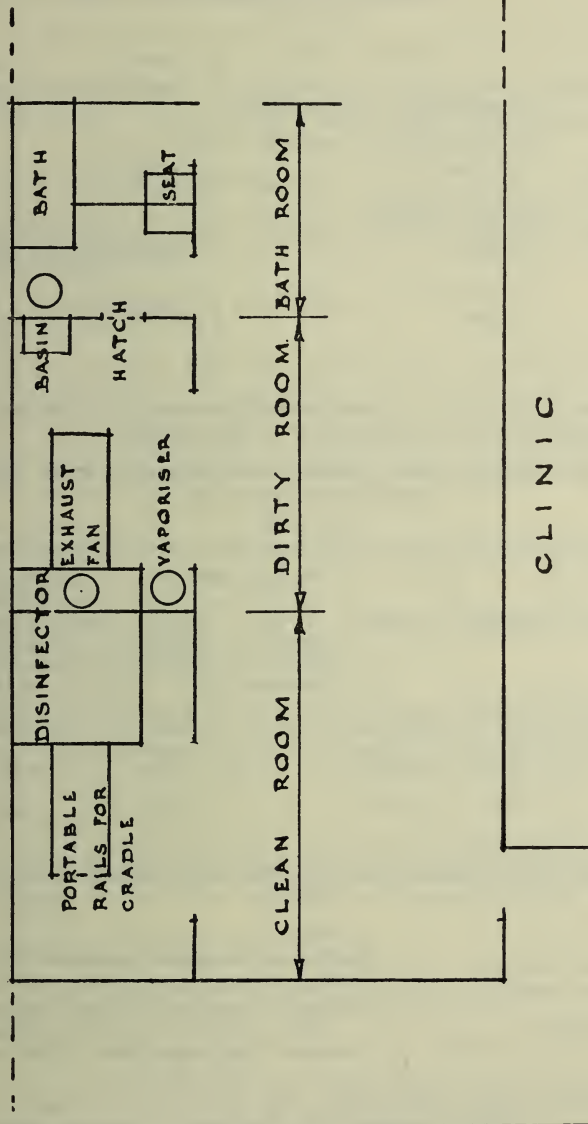
Adults are given advice and materials to cleanse themselves and in difficult cases are admitted to hospital.

WATER.

There has been no change in the source of water supply since last year and the quantity and quality has remained satisfactory. Bacteriological and chemical control is maintained by the Water Department. The plumbo solvent action of the water is corrected by the addition of lime to give a pH value of approximately 9.0.

A scheme to safeguard the gathering grounds has been prepared and now awaits Ministry approval.

Some 20,057 dwelling houses comprising the majority of the population are supplied direct from the public mains ; there are no standpipes.



PLAN OF PUBLIC CLEANSING UNIT

SCALE : 8 FT. = 1 IN.

PORT HEALTH SURVEY, 1954.

SECTION I—STAFF.

TABLE A.

| Name of Officer | Nature of appointment | Date of appointment | Qualifications | Any other appointments held |
|------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Dr. James Maclachlan | Medical Officer of Health | 7/3/52 | M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. | |
| Dr. Dorothy G. Stewart | Deputy Medical Officer of Health | 5/10/48 | M.B., Ch.B. | |
| John Shanks | Port Health Officer | 1/4/42 | Cert.R.S.I. & S.I. Joint Board, etc. | Chief Sanitary Inspector. |
| Herbert C. Perkins | Port Health Officer | 1/7/52 | Cert.R.S.I. & S.I. Joint Board, etc. | Assistant Chief Sanitary Inspector. |

Address and telephone number of the Medical Officer of Health—Town Hall, Barrow-in-Furness. Telephone No. : Barrow 600.

SECTION II—AMOUNT OF SHIPPING ENTERING THE DISTRICT DURING THE YEAR.

TABLE B.

| Ships from | Number | Tonnage | Number inspected | | Number of Ships reported as having, or having had during the voyage, infectious disease on board |
|-------------------|--------|---------|----------------------------------|---------------------------|--|
| | | | By the Medical Officer of Health | By the Sanitary Inspector | |
| Foreign Ports.... | 187 | 323,815 | 25 | 187 | Nil. |
| Coastwise | 259 | 93,859 | 6 | 75 | Nil. |
| Total | 446 | 417,674 | 31 | 262 | Nil. |

SECTION III—CHARACTER OF SHIPPING AND TRADE DURING THE YEAR.

TABLE C.

| | | |
|------------------------|---|--|
| PASSENGER TRAFFIC | { | Number of passengers INWARDS—Nil. Number of passengers OUTWARDS—12. |
| CARGO TRAFFIC | { | Principal IMPORTS—Iron Ore, Wood Pulp, Cork, Pulp Wood, and Scrap Metal. Principal EXPORTS—Coke, Pig Iron and Ingot Moulds. |

PRINCIPAL PORTS from which ships arrive—Bona, Melilla, Almeria, Narvik, Helsingborg, Oxelosund, Ymuiden, Oskarshamn, Hamburg, Lulea, Gefle, Kirkines, Rouen, Setubal, Ayr, Liverpool, Belfast and the Republic of Ireland.

SECTION IV—INLAND BARGE TRAFFIC.

There is no inland barge traffic within the district.

SECTION V—WATER SUPPLY.

- (1) Source of supply for (a) the district—Upland surface source.
(b) The town's water supply is available at the dock side and is used for shipping.
- (2) Reports of tests for contamination—Nil.
- (3) Precautions taken against contamination of hydrants and hosepipes—Hydrants and hosepipes are protected and stored in a water shed when not in actual use.
- (4) There are no water boats in use at the Port.

SECTION VI—PUBLIC HEALTH (SHIPS) REGULATIONS, 1952

- (1) LIST OF INFECTED AREAS. (Regulation 6).
A list of Infected Areas is prepared and amended by the Medical Officer of Health from the official list of Infected Areas. A typewritten list of Infected Areas is prepared from the official list of Infected Areas and is delivered by hand to H.M. Customs and Excise Officers.
- (2) RADIO MESSAGES.
Arrangements have been made with Seaforth Radio Station and the Post Office Telephones to send and receive messages from ships entering the Port.
- (3) NOTIFICATIONS OTHERWISE THAN BY RADIO. (Regulation 14(1) (b)).
Telephonic communication from Shipping Agents.
- (4) MOORING STATIONS. (Regulations 22 to 30).
Within Docks: An inner mooring station near Buccleuch Bridge within the Ramsden Dock has been established as a mooring station for all unhealthy ships arriving at Barrow. On arrival of an infected ship or a suspect ship, the vessel is taken to the designated mooring station.
- (5) ARRANGEMENTS FOR—
 - (a) Hospital accommodation for infectious diseases (other than smallpox).
Arrangements have been made to receive seamen suffering from infectious disease to be admitted to Devonshire Road Isolation Hospital.
 - (b) Surveillance and follow up of contacts.
The surveillance and follow up of contacts is carried out by the Medical Officer of Health and the Sanitary Inspectors.
 - (c) Cleansing and disinfection of ships, persons, clothing and other articles.

In cases of necessity the arrangements for the cleansing and disinfection of ships is carried out under the supervision of the Port Health Officers, and cases requiring isolation would be found accommodation at the Devonshire Road Isolation Hospital.

SECTION VII—SMALLPOX.

- (1) Name of Isolation Hospitals to which smallpox cases are sent from the district.
 Elswick Leys Smallpox Hospital, Blackpool.
 Ainsworth Smallpox Hospital, Bury.
- (2) Arrangements have been made to remove all such cases by Corporation ambulances to the hospital. Members of the ambulance crew have been vaccinated recently.
- (3) Name of smallpox consultant available.
 Dr. R. W. Farquar, Victoria House, Regent Street, Lancaster.
- (4) There are no facilities available locally for the laboratory diagnosis of smallpox.

SECTION VIII—VENEREAL DISEASE.

A local centre exists at the Devonshire Road Isolation Hospital for the diagnosis and treatment of Venereal Disease. Information as to the location, days and hours of the available facilities is supplied by notice to the Master or other responsible Officer on a vessel's arrival. The times of the Clinic are as follows :—Monday 7—8 p.m., Wednesday 10-30 a.m. to 12-30 p.m., Friday 2—3 p.m.

SECTION IX—CASES OF NOTIFIABLE AND OTHER INFECTIOUS DISEASES ON SHIPS.

TABLE D.

| Category | Disease | Number of cases during the year | | Number of ships concerned |
|--|---------|---------------------------------|------|---------------------------|
| | | Passengers | Crew | |
| Cases landed from ships from foreign ports | Nil. | Nil. | Nil. | Nil. |
| Cases which have occurred on ships from foreign ports but have been disposed of before arrival | Nil. | Nil. | Nil. | Nil. |
| Cases landed from other ships | Nil. | Nil. | Nil. | Nil. |

SECTION X—OBSERVATIONS ON THE OCCURRENCE OF MALARIA IN SHIPS.

There have been no reported cases of Malaria entering the Port during the year.

SECTION XI—MEASURES TAKEN AGAINST SHIPS INFECTED WITH OR SUSPECTED FOR PLAGUE.

No vessels arrived at the Port either plague infected or plague suspected.
 No vessels from plague infected Ports arrived during the year.

SECTION XII—MEASURES AGAINST RODENTS IN SHIPS FROM FOREIGN PORTS.

All vessels from foreign ports entering the Port are, where necessary, systematically inspected by the Port Health Officers to ascertain the degree of rodent infestation on board.

A macroscopic examination of rats caught is carried out at frequent intervals by the Medical Officer and the Port Health Officers. There were no rats sent for bacteriological examination during the year.

Arrangements have been made, when necessary, for the deratting of ships by means of Hydrogen Cyanide to be carried out by a commercial contractor, Messrs. Hivey Fumigation Co., Ltd., 15, Cheapside, Liverpool.

It has not been found necessary to carry out any rat-proofing of ships during the year.

TABLE E.

Rodents destroyed during the year in ships from foreign ports.

| Category | Number |
|---------------------------|--------|
| Black rats | Nil. |
| Brown rats | Nil. |
| Species not known | Nil. |
| Sent for examination | Nil. |
| Infected with plague | Nil. |

TABLE F.

DERATTING CERTIFICATES AND DERATTING EXEMPTION CERTIFICATES ISSUED DURING THE YEAR FOR SHIPS FROM FOREIGN PORTS.

| No. of Deratting Certificates issued | | | | Number of Deratting Exemption Certificates issued | Total Certificates Issued |
|--------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------|---|---------------------------|
| After fumigation with | | After trapping | After poisoning | Total | |
| HCN | Other fumigant | | | | |
| Nil. | Nil. | Nil. | Nil. | Nil. | 28 |

10 of the above-mentioned Deratting Exemption Certificates were issued following examinations of vessels at the Port of Heysham.

As from 1st October, 1952, the Port was included in the list of ports where the Medical Officer of Health is authorised to issue Deratting Certificates and Deratting Exemption Certificates.

SECTION XIII—INSPECTIONS OF SHIPS FOR NUISANCES
TABLE G.

INSPECTIONS AND NOTICES.

| Nature and Number of Inspections | | Notices served | | Result of serving Notices |
|---|-----|-------------------|---|--|
| | | Statutory Notices | Other Notices | |
| Routine Inspections and Re-Inspection.... | 534 | Nil. | 36 written informal Notices. 12 verbal Notices to Master or Chief Officer. | All the nuisances have so far as practicable been abated, prior to the vessels leaving the Port. |
| Total | 534 | Nil. | 48 | .... |

SECTION XVI—MISCELLANEOUS.

There are no special arrangements for the interment of dead arriving by sea. The body is first examined by the Medical Officer of Health.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS (APPLICATION TO SHIPPING) ORDER, 1951.

7 Rodent Control Certificates were issued under the provisions of the above-mentioned Order during the year.

FOOD INSPECTION.

No foodstuffs arrived at the Port during the year, therefore no action was taken under the Public Health (Imported Food) Regulations, 1937 and 1948, the Public Health (Imported Milk) Regulations, 1926, and the Public Health (Preservatives, etc., in Food) Regulations, 1925-1940.

ARRANGEMENTS FOR DEALING WITH MARITIME DECLARATIONS OF HEALTH.

A blank Maritime Declaration of Health form is handed to the Master of every ship approaching the Port as soon as the Pilot boards. On arrival at the Port the completed form is inspected by the Customs Officer or Port Health Officer, whoever is first aboard.

BOARDING OF VESSELS ON ARRIVAL.

Vessels arriving from infected or suspected ports are always boarded by a Customs Officer and Port Health Officer together. Other vessels are usually boarded by a Customs Officer in the first instance.

RESTRICTION ON BOARDING OR LEAVING SHIPS.

Instructions have been given to Harbour Authorities, tradespeople and other persons in the habit of visiting ships at the Port to keep clear until the ship is free from control.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH.

The following is a summary, prepared by the Chief Sanitary Inspector, of the work carried out in his Department during the year 1954 :—

HOUSING.

Housing Repairs.

INFORMAL ACTION

| | |
|--|-----|
| Number of unfit or defective houses rendered fit during the year as a result of informal action by the local authority under the Public Health or Housing Acts | 195 |
|--|-----|

ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS

PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS.

Number of houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices

| | |
|---|-----|
| (a) by owners | 386 |
| (b) by local authority in default of owners | 1 |

HOUSING ACT, 1936

Section 11

An undertaking to render fit for human habitation a house in respect of which a Notice under this Section had been served in 1953, was accepted, and the necessary work was satisfactorily carried out.

Section 12

CLOSING ORDERS.

No. of Closing Orders made in respect of Unfit Dwellings Nil.

1 Closing Order was determined following the satisfactory completion of the work necessary to render the house fit for human habitation.

HOUSING REPAIRS AND RENTS ACT, 1954

This Act came into operation on the 30th August, 1954, and enables landlords of controlled houses to claim a rent increase provided certain conditions are fulfilled. In short, these conditions are : (1) A Notice in a prescribed form (vide Housing Repairs (Increase of Rent) Regulations, 1954), must be served on the tenant ; (2) the owner must declare in writing that the house is in good repair and fit for human habitation ; and (3) a declaration in writing that work of general repair has been carried out to the dwelling in 12 months out of the last 14 months before the date of the Notice, to a value of not less than three times the amount of the statutory repairs deduction, or an amount to the value of six times the statutory repairs deduction during three out of the last four years ending on the 30th December, 1954.

In the declaration on expenditure, the landlord must give a general description of the work carried out, its value and the period when it was done, so that the tenant can, if he wishes, challenge it in the County Court within 28 days of the date of the Notice of Increase. The landlord has also to set out in the Notice the existing recoverable rent, and show how the repairs increase is calculated, the gross value of the house, and specify the date, which must be at least 6 weeks after the date of the Notice, when the increased rent is payable.

If the condition of the house is in dispute, the tenant can apply to the local authority for a Certificate of Disrepair. This application can be made as soon as the Notice of Increase is received, or at any later time if the condition of the house warrants it. Furthermore if the house was a controlled one on the 1st September, 1939, and the tenant has been paying the 40% increase permitted under the Rent Act of 1920, it would seem that he can, if he obtains a Certificate of Disrepair, deduct this amount from his rent besides refusing to pay the increase permitted under the new Act.

If the local authority decides to grant the Certificate of Disrepair, the owner can challenge it in the County Court. If, on the other hand, the local authority decides not to issue a Certificate of Disrepair, the tenant may appeal to the County Court.

When the landlord puts the house in good repair, he can apply to the local authority to revoke the Certificate of Disrepair, and if they do so, the repairs increase becomes payable.

On receipt of an application for a Certificate of Disrepair, the house is inspected by a Sanitary Inspector. The scope of this inspection is largely controlled by the form of certificate which is prescribed in the Housing Repairs (Increase of Rent) Regulations, 1954.

Following the said inspection, the Chief Sanitary Inspector submits a report thereon to the Housing Committee, who decide whether or not to grant a Certificate. Similar action is taken in respect of an application for revocation of a Certificate of Disrepair.

The following statistics relate to the period from the commencement of the operation of the Act to 31st December, 1954 :—

| | |
|--|------|
| No. of applications for Certificates of Disrepair | 68 |
| No. of application considered and granted by the Housing Committee | 48 |
| No. of applications refused | Nil. |
| No. of applications for Revocation of Certificates of Disrepair | Nil. |

ABATEMENT OF NUISANCES.

| | |
|--|------|
| No. of complaints regarding nuisances and sanitary defects received and investigated | 1078 |
| No. of inspections and re-inspections made under the provisions of the Public Health Act & Housing Act | 9455 |
| No. of Intimation Notices served in connection with Nuisances and Sanitary Defects | 584 |
| No. of Statutory Notices served in connection with Nuisances and Sanitary Defects | 373 |
| No. of Orders obtained in the Magistrates' Court in respect of Unabated Nuisances | 5 |
| No. of inspections of Cinemas, Theatres and Music Halls | 65 |
| No. of miscellaneous inspections (Piggeries, Stables, etc.) | 593 |
| No. of interviews with owners, agents and Contractors, etc. | 1237 |

The following is a summary of work carried out during the year as a result of formal action, and in addition to a considerable amount of work effected as a result of informal action :—

WATER CLOSETS, FLUSHING APPARATUS, ETC.

| | |
|---|----|
| No. of W.C. roofs repaired | 55 |
| No. of W.C. floors repaired or renewed | 4 |
| No. of W.C. doors repaired or renewed | 45 |
| No. of W.C. cisterns repaired or renewed | 49 |
| No. of W.C. flushing apparatus repaired or renewed | 32 |
| No. of broken pedestal W.C. basins repaired or renewed | 48 |
| No. of W.C. conversions | 20 |
| No. of W.C. seats repaired or renewed | 24 |
| No. of defective W.C. walls repaired or rebuilt | 46 |
| No. of defective connections between W.C. basin & flushpipe | 22 |

EAVES GUTTERS, RAINWATER PIPES, HOPPER HEADS, ETC.

| | |
|--|-----|
| No. of premises on which eaves gutters were cleared, repaired or renewed | 150 |
| No. of premises on which rainwater pipes were repaired or renewed | 139 |
| No. of defective lead valley gutters repaired or renewed | 3 |
| No. of yard gulleys unstopped | 9 |
| No. of broken gulleys renewed | 12 |
| No. of gratings provided to gulleys | 8 |
| No. of hopper heads loose or cracked | 4 |

DRAINAGE AND YARD PAVING, ETC.

| | |
|--|----|
| No. of stopped W.C. drains cleared and repaired | 22 |
| No. of defective W.C. drains repaired or relaid | 33 |
| No. of defective surface water drains repaired or relaid.... | 16 |
| No. of stopped surface water drains cleared and repaired | 26 |
| No. of defective drain vent shafts repaired or renewed | 60 |
| No. of leaking yard drains repaired or renewed | 19 |
| No. of defective yard surfaces repaired or renewed | 51 |
| No. of broken and defective sink waste pipes repaired or renewed | 40 |
| No. of broken and defective bath waste pipes repaired or renewed | 7 |
| No. of W.C. soil pipes repaired or renewed | 9 |
| No. of drainage systems overhauled and relaid | 12 |
| No. of cases of cellar flooding remedied | 2 |

YARD WALLS, YARD DOORS, ETC.

| | |
|---|----|
| No. of defective yard doors repaired or renewed | 59 |
| No. of defective yard walls repaired or renewed | 57 |
| No. of disused ash-pits removed | 0 |

GENERAL REPAIRS AND RENEWALS TO DWELLING-HOUSES.

| | |
|--|-----|
| No. of roofs repaired | 223 |
| No. of floors repaired or renewed | 149 |
| No. of cases of dampness in walls remedied | 126 |
| No. of cases of defective plasterwork of walls repaired or renewed | 241 |
| No. of defective house walls repaired or rebuilt | 106 |
| No. of cases of defective plasterwork of ceilings repaired or renewed | 117 |
| No. of defective doors repaired or renewed | 116 |
| No. of defective kitchen firegrates repaired or renewed | 102 |
| No. of defective parlour firegrates repaired or renewed | 18 |
| No. of defective bedroom firegrates repaired or renewed | 12 |
| No. of defective chimney stacks repaired or rebuilt | 38 |
| No. of defective chimney flues repaired or reconstructed | 15 |
| No. of defective flashings repaired or renewed | 25 |
| No. of defective washing boilers repaired or renewed | 7 |
| No. of defective cement renderings to external walls repaired or renewed | 26 |
| No. of defective skylights repaired or renewed | 18 |
| No. of defective fanlights repaired or renewed | 2 |
| No. of defective sinks renewed or refixed | 51 |
| No. of vent bricks provided to walls | 20 |
| No. of loose handrails to staircases refixed | 1 |
| No. of defective fixed cupboards, shelves, etc., repaired or renewed | 7 |
| No. of defective firegrate surrounds and hearths repaired or renewed | 7 |
| No. of defective window frames repaired or renewed | 195 |
| No. of defective window sills repaired or renewed | 76 |
| No. of defective window sashes repaired or renewed | 101 |
| No. of cases of defective window glazing remedied | 10 |
| No. of defective window cords remedied | 145 |
| No. of rooms in which skirting boards were provided or repaired | 24 |
| No. of broken and dangerous steps repaired or renewed | 7 |
| No. of defective firebacks to kitchen ranges repaired | 29 |
| No. of defective mantelpieces repaired or renewed | 1 |
| No. of surrounds to sinks repaired | 4 |
| No. of defective fireboxes to washing boilers repaired or renewed | 7 |
| No. of hot water cisterns repaired or renewed | 3 |
| No. of defective staircases reconstructed or repaired | 5 |
| No. of defective weatherbars & threshwoods provided or repaired | 27 |
| No. of defective gas pipes and fittings repaired | 1 |
| No. of broken chimney pots replaced | 5 |
| No. of cases of defective pointing remedied | 181 |
| No. of defective taps repaired | 6 |
| No. of coalstore, outhouse, etc., structural repairs | 9 |
| No. of leaking bay window tops repaired | 10 |

OTHER NUISANCES.

| | |
|--|---|
| No. of filthy, unwholesome or verminous premises cleansed or disinfested | 5 |
| No. of nuisances from filthy bedding abated | 4 |
| No. of accumulations of offensive refuse removed | 9 |
| No. of dirty and insanitary areas to buildings cleansed | 9 |
| No. of miscellaneous nuisances abated | 8 |

WATER SUPPLY TO OCCUPIED DWELLING-HOUSES.

| | |
|---|----|
| No. of Statutory Notices served under the provisions of Section 138 of the Public Health Act, 1936, and Section 30 of the Water Act, 1945, requiring the provision of a sufficient supply of wholesome water to dwelling-houses | 12 |
| No. of dwelling-houses provided with a sufficient supply of water | 19 |
| No. of leaking pipes repaired | 10 |

DRAINAGE WORK.

The provisions of Section 41 of the Public Health Act, 1936, regarding the notification to be given to the Local Authority of the repair, reconstruction or alteration of the course of any underground drain, are enforced by the Sanitary Inspector's Department, and all such work is inspected and approved by the Sanitary Inspectors before being covered in.

| | |
|--|-----|
| No. of inspections and tests carried out in connection with the repair of, alteration to, or addition to, drains | 730 |
|--|-----|

SHOPS ACT, 1950.

No. of inspections carried out under the provisions of the Shops Act, 1950 1,208

The provisions were generally well complied with.

| | |
|---|---|
| No. of Notices served in respect of defaults under the provisions.... | 4 |
|---|---|

CONTROL OF MOVEABLE DWELLINGS.

During the year considerable time was devoted to the inspection of tents, sheds, etc., used for human habitation.

There is one licensed site within the County Borough area.

RODENT CONTROL.

The Council employ two Rodent Control Operatives to deal with rat and mouse infestation. The work is carried out free of charge, with the exception that occupiers of business premises, factories and work-places are required to pay for the cost of materials and labour.

Rodent Control work in respect of the sewers is the responsibility of the Borough Engineer and Surveyor.

During the course of sewer-baiting, the Rodent Control staff carried out systematic inspections of properties adjacent to the sewers undergoing treatment and it was found that the sewer work had a very marked beneficial effect upon the infestations discovered in surface properties.

Many surface infestations have been remedied throughout the Borough by means of the repair or reconstruction of defective drainage systems

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

The above-mentioned Act which came into force on the 31st March, 1950, revoked the Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919. The new Act places the onus on Local Authorities to take such steps as may be necessary to secure as far as practicable that their Districts are kept free from rats and mice, and in particular to carry out inspections from time to time, to destroy rats and mice on land occupied by Local Authorities, and to enforce the duties of owners and occupiers of land regarding rodent infestation. Occupiers of land infested by substantial numbers of rats or mice are legally bound to notify the local authority thereof in writing. The Act places the onus of disinfection of land upon the owner or occupier thereof and provides for the service of notice upon the owner or occupier by the Local Authority, requiring him to take specific action within a specified time for the eradication of rats and mice, and empowers the Local Authority to carry out such work in default, and to recover the cost thereof from the said owner or occupier.

The following is a summary of the work carried out under the provisions of the Act and covers the period from 1st April, 1954 to 31st March, 1955.

| | Type of Property | | | | |
|--|------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------|---|--------------|
| | Local Authority (1) | Dwell- ing Houses (2) | Agri- cultural (3) | All other (including business premises) (4) | Total (5) |
| Number of properties inspected by the Local Authority as a result of (a) notification (b) survey under the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949 (c) otherwise e.g. when visited primarily for some other purpose. | (a) 10 | 119 | .... | 34 | 163 |
| | (b) 5 | 83 | 15 | 74 | 177 |
| | (c) 38 | 209 | .... | 425 | 672 |
| Total inspections carried out including re-inspections. | 87 | 515 | 21 | 586 | 1209 |
| Number of properties inspected which were found to be infested by rats. | Major 2 | 4 | .... | 3 | 9 |
| | Minor 2 | 72 | 2 | 7 | 83 |
| Number of properties inspected which were found to be infested by mice. | Major 2 | 5 | .... | 7 | 14 |
| | Minor 10 | 81 | 3 | 21 | 115 |
| Number of infested properties treated by the Local Authority. | 14 | 150 | .... | 34 | 198 |
| Number of "block" control schemes carried out. | 1 | 21 | .... | 2 | 24 |

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

No. of visits of enquiry and inspection re cases of Infectious Disease 83
Disinfection of premises and effects was carried out where necessary.

PHARMACY AND POISONS ACT, 1933.

No. of visits of inspection in relation to applications of persons for the retention of their names in the Authority's List of persons entitled to sell poisons included in Part II of the Poisons List 90

FERTILISERS AND FEEDING STUFFS ACT, 1926

FEEDING STUFFS

During the year, 10 Formal samples of Feeding Stuffs were taken, and with the exception of one sample were reported by the Analyst to be satisfactory and to comply with their respective guarantees. In the case of the sample which was reported by the Analyst to have an Oil content 0.58% below the guarantee declared, a warning letter was sent by the Town Clerk to the manufacturer.

MILK SUPPLY.

No. of visits paid to Dairies, Milk Shops and Milk Pasteurising Depots 315

THE MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS, 1949

These Regulations came into operation on the 1st October, 1949, and revoked the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1926 to 1943. The Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries became responsible for the registration of dairy farms and of persons carrying on or proposing to carry on the trade of dairy farmer.

The execution and enforcement of the regulations on dairy farms (except in so far as they relate to diseases Communicable to Man) became from 1st October, 1949, the responsibility of the said Minister, while Local Authorities retain responsibility for those provisions which apply outside dairy farms, for the provisions relating to diseases Communicable to Man, for the registration of dairies other than dairy farms, and for the registration of dairymen and distributors of Milk.

No. of Registered Dairies in the Borough.... 56

THE MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) (RAW MILK) REGULATIONS, 1949.

THE MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) (PASTEURISED AND STERILISED MILK) REGULATIONS, 1949.

These Regulations re-enact with amendments the provisions of the Milk (Special Designations) Regulations, 1936 to 1948.

The Milk (Special Designations) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949, provide that Licences to producers to use any special designation shall be granted by the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries, while Local Authorities will continue to grant Licences to dealers to use special designations in respect of milk sold by them.

The Milk (Special Designations) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949, provide for a new special designation "Sterilised Milk." Licences in respect of Pasteurising and Sterilising establishments will be issued by the Food and Drugs Authorities, and Local Authorities will continue to be responsible for all other Licences connected with these designated milks.

All fees for Licences have been dispensed with under the provisions of the above-mentioned Regulations.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF MILK SAMPLES.

PASTEURISED MILK.

| | |
|---|----|
| No. of samples taken | 72 |
| No. satisfactory in all respects | 72 |
| No. of Licensed Milk Pasteurisers in the Borough :— | |
| H.T.S.T. | 2 |

TUBERCULIN TESTED (PASTEURISED) MILK.

| | |
|--|----|
| No. of samples taken | 25 |
| No. satisfactory in all respects | 25 |
| No. of Licensed Pasteurisers of Tuberculin-Tested Milk in the Borough :— | |
| H.T.S.T. Process | 1 |

TUBERCULIN-TESTED MILK (PRODUCED WITHIN THE BOROUGH)

| | |
|--|-----|
| No. of samples taken | 12 |
| No. satisfactory on both Methylene Blue and Coliform Tests | 11 |
| No. unsatisfactory on Methylene Blue Test | 1 |
| No. unsatisfactory on Coliform Test | Nil |

TUBERCULIN-TESTED MILK (PRODUCED OUTSIDE THE BOROUGH).

| | |
|--|----|
| No. of samples taken | 33 |
| No. satisfactory on both Methylene Blue and Coliform Tests | 24 |
| No. unsatisfactory on Methylene Blue Test | 5 |
| No. unsatisfactory on Coliform Test | 6 |

ORDINARY MILK (PRODUCED WITHIN THE BOROUGH)

| | |
|----------------------------------|---|
| No. of samples taken | 5 |
| No. satisfactory in all respects | 5 |

ORDINARY MILK (PRODUCED OUTSIDE THE BOROUGH).

| | |
|---|----|
| No. of samples taken | 21 |
| No. satisfactory in all respects | 18 |
| No. unsatisfactory on Plate Count Test | 1 |
| No. unsatisfactory on Methylene Blue Test | 1 |
| No. unsatisfactory on Coliform Test | 3 |

BIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF MILK SAMPLES.

| | |
|---|----|
| Total No. of bulk samples of Milk submitted for animal inoculation test | 58 |
| Total No. of bulk samples of Milk showing the presence of B. Tuberculosis | 1 |

THE ICE-CREAM (HEAT TREATMENT, ETC.) REGULATIONS 1947 and 1948.

The administration of these Regulations was fully carried out and repeated visits of inspection to premises where ice-cream is manufactured and/or sold showed that, following advice and explanation given by the Inspectors, the provisions were being well complied with.

| | |
|--|-----|
| No. of inspections of premises where Ice-Cream is manufactured and/or sold | 438 |
|--|-----|

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF ICE-CREAM

During the year, samples of Ice-Cream were obtained from the various premises registered for its manufacture and/or sale, and were submitted to the Methylene Blue Test recommended by the Ministry of Health. Details of the samples and the results of the tests are as follows :—

| | | | | | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|---|
| No. of samples of Ice-Cream submitted | | | | | | | | 6 |
|---------------------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|---|

The results of the tests show that the samples were classified as follows :—

| | | | |
|---------|------|------|-----------|
| Grade 1 | | | 6 samples |
|---------|------|------|-----------|

FOOD PREMISES.

During the year, routine visits of inspection were carried out regularly of all types of food premises including shops, food factories and warehouses, restaurant and hotel kitchens, canteens, ice-cream manufacturers' and dealers' premises, butchers' shops, market stalls and the Cold Stores. Inspections were also carried out of vehicles used for the transport of meat and other foodstuffs.

The following is a summary of the inspections carried out and action taken in connection with food premises.

THE FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.

| | | | | | | | | |
|--|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|-------|
| No. of premises registered during the year under Section 14 in connection with the preparation or manufacture of sausages, or potted, pressed, pickled or preserved food | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | 2 |
| Total No. of such premises on the register | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | 113 |
| No. of premises registered during the year in connection with the manufacture or sale of Ice-Cream | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | 13 |
| Total No. of such premises on the register | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | 201 |
| No. of inspections of food premises | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | 2,375 |
| No. of written Notices served under the provisions of Section 13 of the Act | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | 24 |

The above-mentioned Notices, which relate mainly to the repair and cleansing of walls, ceilings, floors, windows, and doors, the provision and maintenance of suitable and sufficient means of ventilation, the provision of washing basins and supply of hot water for the use of persons employed in food premises, were all complied with.

Special attention was paid to personal hygiene in respect of persons engaged in food handling and preparation, and in this connection a high standard has been maintained.

BYELAWS.

Byelaws under Section 15 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, for securing the observance of sanitary and cleanly practices and conditions in connection with the handling, wrapping and delivery of food sold or intended for sale for human consumption, and in connection with the sale or exposure for sale in the open air of food intended for human consumption, were in operation.

The said Byelaws were strictly enforced and much informal action taken, the results of which were satisfactory.

PROSECUTIONS UNDER SECTION 3 OF THE FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938

During the year two firms were prosecuted under the provisions of the above.

In the first case, a local baker was prosecuted for selling, to the prejudice of the purchaser, a loaf of bread not of the substance demanded. The loaf of bread in question was found to contain a cigarette end. The case was found to be proved and the defendant was fined £5.

In the second case, a firm of bread manufacturers with premises outside the County Borough was prosecuted for selling, to the prejudice of the purchaser, a loaf of bread not of the substance demanded. The loaf of bread in this case was found to contain a bee. The case was found to be proved and the defendants were fined £5.

PUBLIC HEALTH (MEAT) REGULATIONS, 1924

No. of inspections of butchers' shops, meat stalls and the Cold Stores 235

The Regulations continue to be well complied with generally, and only informal action was necessary where any default was found.

The provisions of the Regulations in regard to the transport of meat have been carried out satisfactorily.

MEAT INSPECTION.

NUMBERS OF ANIMALS SLAUGHTERED AT THE PUBLIC ABATTOIRS.

| Year. | Cattle. | Calves. | Sheep. | Pigs. | Total. |
|---------------|---------|---------|--------|-------|--------|
| 1952 | 3294 | 2632 | 13322 | 2905 | 22153 |
| 1953 | 3394 | 2838 | 13120 | 3639 | 22991 |
| 1954 | 4742 | 2299 | 25285 | 7858 | 40184 |
| Increase | 1348 | — | 12165 | 4219 | 17193 |
| Decrease | — | 539 | — | — | — |

NUMBER OF WHOLE CARCASSES WITH OFFALS CONDEMNED.

| Year. | Beef | Veal | Mutton | Pork | Total. |
|---------------|------|------|--------|------|--------|
| 1952 | 76 | 140 | 51 | 52 | 319 |
| 1953 | 48 | 48 | 46 | 37 | 179 |
| 1954 | 103 | 164 | 91 | 54 | 412 |
| Increase | 55 | 116 | 45 | 17 | 233 |

The total weight of meat condemned at the Abattoirs during the year was :—67 tons, 3 cwts, 0 qtr, 25 lbs.

UN SOUND MEAT : CARCASSES AND PART CARCASSES CONDEMNED AT THE ABATTOIRS.

| Disease | Beef lbs. | Veal lbs. | Mutton lbs. | Pork lbs. | Total. lbs. |
|-----------------------|--------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|----------------|
| Tuberculosis | 34184 | — | — | 3380 | 37564 |
| Other Conditions | 13383 | 5770 | 2868 | 5736 | 27757 |
| | <u>47567</u> | <u>5770</u> | <u>2868</u> | <u>9116</u> | <u>65321</u> |

UN SOUND VISCERA CONDEMNED AT THE ABATTOIRS.

| Disease | Beef lbs. | Veal lbs. | Mutton lbs. | Pork lbs. | Total lbs. |
|-----------------------|--------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|---------------|
| Tuberculosis | 31732 | — | — | 7103 | 38835 |
| Other Conditions | 35260 | 1328 | 6991 | 2706 | 46285 |
| | <u>66992</u> | <u>1328</u> | <u>6991</u> | <u>9809</u> | <u>85120</u> |

| | Cattle | Calves | Sheep & Lambs | Pigs |
|---|--------|--------|---------------|------|
| Number killed | 4742 | 2299 | 25285 | 7858 |
| Number Inspected | 4742 | 2299 | 25285 | 7858 |
| All diseases except Tuberculosis, Whole carcasses condemned | 31 | 164 | 91 | 31 |
| Carcases of which some organ or part was condemned | 3338 | 1 | 8896 | 842 |
| Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis | 70.3 | 7.17 | 35.18 | 11.2 |
| Tuberculosis only. Whole carcasses condemned | 72 | .... | .... | 23 |
| Carcases of which some organ or part was condemned | 1803 | .... | .... | 713 |
| Percentage of number inspected affected with Tuberculosis | 41.85 | .... | .... | 9.07 |

MEAT INSPECTED AFTER DELIVERY TO THE ABATTOIRS FROM MINISTRY OF FOOD AND OTHER DEPOTS OUTSIDE THE COUNTY BOROUGH AREA.

23 Beef Carcasses, 24 Calf Carcasses, 22 Sheep Carcasses, 1,067 Pig Carcasses, 766 Pigs' Plucks, and 340 lbs. Pigs' Kidneys.

IMPORTED MEAT CONDEMNED

1,848 lbs of Beef. 167 lbs. of Pork. 21 lbs. of Sheeps' Kidneys.

CONGENITAL TUBERCULOSIS IN CALVES

For the first time for many years, no cases of Congenital Tuberculosis were found on post-mortem examination of Calves at the Abattoirs.

PUBLIC HEALTH (SHELL-FISH) REGULATIONS

The gathering of Cockles and Mussels from Walney Channel is prohibited by an Order made in 1918, and the gathering of Periwinkles is prohibited by an Order made in 1948.

PUBLIC ABATTOIRS

As a result of the de-control of meat supplies in July, 1954, the whole of the administration and control of the Public Abattoirs reverted to the Corporation, and the post of Sanitary Inspector for Meat Inspection was combined with that of Abattoir Superintendent. This new administrative arrangement has proved very satisfactory.

ADMINISTRATION OF THE FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS, 1938 and 1950 RELATING TO SAMPLES OF FOOD ANALYSED DURING THE YEAR, 1954

SAUSAGES

Two informal samples of sausages were reported upon analysis to be slightly deficient of meat. Formal samples were obtained later from the same Vendors, and were reported by the Analyst to have a satisfactory meat content in each case.

HOT MILK

Three Formal samples of Hot Milk were obtained for analysis. One sample was reported by the Analyst to be deprived of 35% of its original milk fat, the other two samples were reported to contain 5% and 12% of added water respectively. Warning letters were sent by the Town Clerk to the Vendors.

RUM

An informal sample of Rum was reported upon analysis to contain 17.5% of added water.

A Formal sample, purchased later from the same source, was reported upon analysis to contain 17.7% of added water. Legal proceedings were instituted against the Vendor.

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

Summary of legal proceedings taken during the year.

| Nature of Sample | Nature of Offence | Results of Legal Proceedings |
|------------------|--------------------------------------|--|
| Rum | Rum contained excess of added water. | Vendor fined £20 plus £1 15s. 0d. costs. |

ANALYSIS OF MILK SAMPLES.

| | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|-------|
| No. of samples analysed | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | 83 |
| Number of samples reported genuine | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | 80 |
| Number of samples reported to be adulterated or below the legal standard | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | 3 |
| Percentage of samples adulterated or below the legal standard | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | 3.61 |
| Average percentage of fatty and non-fatty solids in total samples analysed — | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Fatty solids | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | 3.79 |
| | Non-fatty solids | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | 8.79 |
| | Total solids | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | 12.57 |

SUMMARY.

| | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| No. of samples showing deficiency in milk fat | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | 1 |
| No. of samples showing added water.... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | 2 |
| No. of samples of abnormal composition | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | Nil. |

MERCHANDISE MARKS ACT, 1926

MERCHANDISE MARKS (IMPORTED GOODS) NO. 7 ORDER

During the year, a firm of multiple meat traders was prosecuted under the above-mentioned provisions for having exposed for sale imported meat and edible offal without indication of origin, and for applying a false trade description to imported meat by marking the same "English."

The cases were found to be proved and the firm was fined a total of £22 0s. 0d.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938

TOTAL NUMBER OF SAMPLES ANALYSED DURING THE YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 1954.

| No. of Samples Analysed | | | Description of Sample | No. of Samples Genuine | | | No. of Samples adulterated or not up to standard. | | |
|-------------------------|----------|-------|----------------------------|------------------------|----------|-------|---|----------|-------|
| Formal | Informal | Total | | Formal | Informal | Total | Formal | Informal | Total |
| 18 | 65 | 83 | Milk | 15 | 65 | 80 | 3 | — | 3 |
| — | 1 | 1 | Ulster Cream | — | 1 | 1 | — | — | — |
| 1 | — | 1 | Butter Flavoured Drops | 1 | — | 1 | — | — | — |
| 1 | — | 1 | Buttered Chocolate | 1 | — | 1 | — | — | — |
| 1 | — | 1 | Butter Toffee | 1 | — | 1 | — | — | — |
| 3 | — | 3 | Meat and Potato Pie | 3 | — | 3 | — | — | — |
| 1 | — | 1 | Fish Cakes | 1 | — | 1 | — | — | — |
| 2 | 9 | 11 | Pork Sausage | 2 | 7 | 9 | — | 2 | 2 |
| — | 10 | 10 | Beef Sausage | — | 10 | 10 | — | — | — |
| — | 6 | 6 | Butter | — | 6 | 6 | — | — | — |
| — | 5 | 5 | Margarine | — | 5 | 5 | — | — | — |
| — | 6 | 6 | Cooking Fat | — | 6 | 6 | — | — | — |
| — | 6 | 6 | Ice Cream | — | 6 | 6 | — | — | — |
| 1 | 3 | 4 | Rum | — | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| — | 6 | 6 | Whisky | — | 6 | 6 | — | — | — |
| — | 1 | 1 | Gin | — | 1 | 1 | — | — | — |
| 1 | — | 1 | Butter Flavoured Macaroons | 1 | — | 1 | — | — | — |
| 1 | — | 1 | Butterscotch Fingers | 1 | — | 1 | — | — | — |
| 30 | 118 | 148 | TOTALS | 26 | 115 | 141 | 4 | 3 | 7 |

| | |
|--------------------------|-----|
| Packets of Dates | 9 |
| Packets of Puffed Wheat | 3 |
| Packets of Oats | 3 |
| Packets of All-Bran | 3 |
| Packets of Dried Greens | 6 |
| Packets of Brandy Snaps | 24 |
| Cases of Eggs | 6 |
| Cases of Italian Peaches | 20 |
| Pieces of Rock | 36 |
| Pieces of Lollipops | 144 |
| Jellies | 14 |
| Oranges | 31 |

| | Cwts. | Qtrs. | Lbs. |
|-------------------------|-------|-------|------------------|
| Bacon and Ham | 3 | — | 22 $\frac{3}{4}$ |
| Cooked Meats | — | 1 | 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ |
| Sausages | 1 | — | 23 $\frac{1}{2}$ |
| Pork Hining | — | — | 20 |
| Lamb and Trimmings | 15 | 2 | 11 $\frac{1}{4}$ |
| Black Puddings | — | — | 12 |
| Saveloy | — | — | 10 |
| Fish (Fresh and Smoked) | — | 3 | 11 |
| Fish Paste | — | — | 24 |
| Prawn Tails | — | — | 21 |
| Cockles | — | — | 10 |
| Frozen Egg | 6 | 2 | 8 |
| Flour | — | 3 | 6 |
| Biscuits | 2 | 2 | 20 $\frac{1}{2}$ |
| Barley Kernels | — | — | 2 |
| Dried Lentils | — | — | 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ |
| Shredded Wheat | — | — | 2 |
| Potatoes | 4 | 2 | — |
| Cake Margarine | — | — | 8 |
| Butter | — | — | 5 |
| Cheese | 1 | 2 | 24 $\frac{1}{2}$ |
| Dried Apricots | 6 | 1 | 2 |
| Cake | — | — | 16 |
| Preserves | — | — | 5 |
| Tea | — | — | $\frac{1}{3}$ |
| Raisins | — | — | 5 |
| Candied Peel | — | — | 7 |
| Prunes | — | — | 2 |
| Ceyenne Pepper | — | — | 2 |
| Ice Foam Crystals | — | — | 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ |
| Holland Toffee | — | — | 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ |

FACTORIES ACT, 1937 AND 1948.

1.—INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors)

| Premises | Number on Register | Number of | | |
|--|--------------------------|-------------|--------------------|-------------------------|
| | | Inspections | Written notices | Occupiers prosecuted |
| (i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities | 40 | 48 | 2 | Nil. |
| (ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority | 217 | 250 | 13 | Nil. |
| (iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) ... | 28 | 35 | Nil. | Nil. |
| TOTAL | 285 | 333 | 15 | Nil. |

2.—CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

| Particulars | Number of cases in which defects were found | | | | Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted |
|---|---|----------|----------------------------------|----------------------|---|
| | Found | Remedied | Referred To H.M. Inspector | By H.M. Inspector | |
| Want of cleanliness (S.1.) | 2 | 2 | ... | 2 | ... |
| Overcrowding (S.2.) | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Unreasonable temperature (S.3.) | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Inadequate ventilation | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6.) | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Sanitary Conveniences (S.7.) | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| (a) Insufficient | 2 | 2 | ... | ... | ... |
| (b) Unsuitable or defective | 9 | 9 | ... | 2 | ... |
| (c) Not separate for sexes | 2 | 2 | ... | 2 | ... |
| Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork) | 9 | 9 | ... | 1 | ... |
| TOTAL | 24 | 24 | ... | 7 | ... |

OUTWORK (Sections 110 and 111).

| Nature of Work | Section 110 | | | Section 111 | | |
|--|---|---|---|--|----------------|--------------|
| | No. of out-workers in August list required by Sect. 110 (1) (c) | No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council | No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists | No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises | Notices served | Prosecutions |
| Wearing Apparel (making, etc.) | 3 | — | — | — | — | — |
| TOTAL | 3 | — | — | — | — | — |

LOCAL HEALTH SERVICES PROVIDED UNDER THE NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE ACTS.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION.

ADMINISTRATION.

The Medical Officer of Health acts under the direction of the Health Committee as administrative officer for the Authority's Part III Services under the National Health Service Act, 1946. He directs and co-ordinates the work of the Health Department which is discharged through specialised sections. Control and supervision over their respective sections are exercised by the Medical Officer in charge of Maternity and Child Welfare work, the Principal Dental Officer, the Superintendent Nursing Officer, the Superintendent District Nurse and the Ambulance Officer.

CO-ORDINATION AND CO-OPERATION WITH OTHER PARTS OF THE NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE.

Interlocking membership exists between the Local Health Authority, the Hospital Management Committee and the Executive Council. In addition, the Medical Officer of Health is a member of the Hospital Management Committee, the Medical Advisory Committee, the Executive Council, the Local Medical Committee and the Area Liaison Committee. Close co-operation exists between the administrative staffs of the Public Health Department, the Hospitals and the Hospital Management Committee and the Executive Council. In view of the compactness of the population involved, arrangements for co-operation are developed on an ad hoc basis as required. The specific arrangements for securing co-operation in the treatment of patients at hospitals or by general practitioners are described in subsequent paragraphs and are working smoothly and efficiently.

General Practitioners are informed by letter of new services made available or of changes in existing services. Information is disseminated to the public through field workers and allied social workers, at clinics and the central Public Health Office, and via the agency of the Press.

JOINT USE OF STAFF.

No general practitioners are employed by the Local Health Authority. Detailed arrangements regarding joint use of staff are dealt with under Particular Services. These arrangements appertain to Tuberculosis, Orthopaedics, Obstetrics and Ophthalmics.

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS.

With the exception of arrangements made for unmarried mothers none of the Authority's duties is discharged through the agency of voluntary bodies.

PARTICULAR SERVICES.

SECTION 22—CARE OF EXPECTANT AND NURSING MOTHERS AND CHILDREN UNDER SCHOOL AGE.

(a) EXPECTANT AND NURSING MOTHERS.

Every pregnant woman can have ante-natal care free of charge from a doctor of her choice. This service is provided under arrangements made by the Executive Council.

The Authority maintains an ante-natal clinic to which any midwife can bring her cases. The clinic, which is situated in the grounds of Risedale Maternity Hospital, is conducted by the Medical Officer for Maternity and Child Welfare, and is staffed by the Municipal Midwives. The Obstetric Consultant from Risedale Maternity Hospital is available to see abnormal cases. This arrangement provides the interchange of information necessary for the proper care and after care of expectant and nursing mothers. Each week there are three sessions, one of which is held for new cases. All new cases are routinely referred to the Pathological Laboratory for blood testing. By arrangement with the Hospital Management Committee the post-natal clinic, held in the same premises as the ante-natal, is available for midwives' cases.

Patients also receive ante-natal supervision in their own homes.

Instruction in mothercraft is conducted informally by Health Visitors and Midwives while interviewing individual expectant or nursing mothers.

No discrimination is made against the unmarried mother to whom are open all the facilities provided by the Authority. In addition, arrangements are made in suitable cases for the confinement to take place at the Maternity Home, St. Monica, Kendal, which provides for the mother's bodily needs and also gives rehabilitative training. Close co-operation is maintained with the local social worker of the Furness Association for Social and Moral Welfare and with other workers.

(b) CHILD WELFARE

The Central Clinic is staffed by a Medical Officer and three Health Visitors on each of the five afternoon sessions held every week and clerical assistance is provided.

In addition, the Mobile Clinic which is staffed by a Doctor and a District Health Visitor, operates from five different sites at each of which an afternoon clinic session is held every week. The ease with which this clinic can be attended has resulted in its considerable popularity.

Health Visitors pay a birth visit and subsequently one visit at each month until six months. Visits thereafter are of necessity less frequent, but all children are kept under supervision until they reach the age of five years. Special visits are paid as necessary.

Liaison with the Paediatric service of the Regional Hospital Board is maintained by the attendance of a Health Visitor at each out patient session at the North Lonsdale Hospital. The Health Department can thus provide the Paediatrician with details of home background and in return gain the information necessary to undertake domiciliary supervision of specialist advice and treatment.

Children seen by Assistant Medical Officers and considered to be in need of specialist advice or treatment are sent in the first instance to their family doctors and copies of resulting hospital reports are usually given to the Public Health Department.

By arrangement with the Barrow Executive Council, Dr. H. C. Kodilinye, engaged by the Local Authority on a part time basis, conducts Ophthalmic Clinics held at Arndene, Abbey Road.

In conjunction with the specialist orthopaedic clinic conducted by an orthopaedic specialist employed by the Manchester Regional Hospital Board and held every six weeks at the Central Clinic, a physiotherapist devotes three sessions each week to children under five. At these sessions cases referred by the medical staff or from the orthopaedic clinic are given massage or remedial exercises. An ultra violet ray therapy clinic in charge of a physiotherapist is available at the Central Clinic for two sessions weekly to children referred by the medical staff.

(c) CARE OF PREMATURE INFANTS.

Premature babies requiring hospital treatment are dealt with at Risedale Maternity Hospital. A special heated basket for transporting the baby is loaned by the hospital and the Authority's ambulance service provides a conveyance.

The Municipal Midwives have all had instruction in the care of premature babies and any special appliances required can be borrowed from Risedale Maternity Hospital.

All Midwives are required to send notification of premature babies to the Medical Officer of Health and arrangements are made for an early follow up by the Health Visitors. This arrangement includes institutional births.

(d) WELFARE FOODS SCHEME.

A Child Welfare shop occupying separate premises from the Central Clinic and managed by Health Department staff is situated in Cavendish Square.

The shop carries a large and varied stock of proprietary infant foods which are available to any mother whose baby, as shown by its weight card, regularly attends the Central Clinic and has been weighed within the last four weeks. In addition National Dried Milk, Cod Liver Oil, Orange Juice and Vitamin A and D Tablets are supplied to eligible persons.

(e) DENTAL CARE

The Dental Clinic is situated in the same premises as the Central Clinic. Approximately one and a half sessions per week are devoted to the dental care of expectant and nursing mothers and children under five. This service is all that is necessary at the present time to meet the demands made upon it.

(f) OTHER PROVISION.

Close co-operation exists between the Public Health Department and the various other workers in the field of Children's Welfare, in particular the Local Inspector of the N.S.P.C.C., the Probation Officers, the Area Children's Officer and the Diocesan Social Worker.

No Adoption Society is located in Barrow but the Public Health Department maintains contact and works with the Children's Department, which notifies to the Medical Officer of Health the names and addresses of potential adopters, so that visits by a Health Visitor can be arranged and the suitability of conditions assessed. Close supervision is maintained during the trial period before confirmation of the Adoption Order.

Child Life Protection is the responsibility of the Children's Committee but foster children are supervised by the Health Visitors in the normal course of their duties.

SECTION 23—DOMICILIARY MIDWIFERY.

There is a present working establishment of 8 midwives controlled by the Superintendent Nursing Officer. The Local Health Authority is the Local Supervising Authority under the Midwives Acts and a Medical Officer is deputed to act as Medical Supervisor of Midwives, non medical supervision being by the Superintendent Nursing Officer, in this connection, visits being made to the Authority's domiciliary and to private midwives alike.

A Minnitt's Gas-Air Analgesia Apparatus is available for each midwife. Any patient medically suitable can have this aid. Arrangements for conveyance of the apparatus are made in each case. A sterilised accouchement set is provided free for each patient.

The arrangements for clinic and home ante-natal supervision have already been dealt with.

Where the patient is unsuitable on medical grounds or because of unsuitable home conditions for a domiciliary confinement, it is usually possible to arrange for a hospital confinement. The midwives are available to act as maternity nurses where a patient wishes to be confined by her own doctor.

The Authority regularly sends midwives for a refresher course but has no arrangements for training pupil midwives as no Part II Training School exists in the Borough.

SECTION 24—HEALTH VISITING.

The Superintendent Nursing Officer is in charge of the establishment of 10 Health Visitors. In addition to visiting routinely expectant and nursing mothers and young children, the Health Visitors call upon children under five who have been notified as cases of pneumonia, measles or whooping cough. Frequent visits are made in cases of a miscellaneous nature especially in regard to the aged. The work of prevention, care and after care is performed by all Health Visitors and additionally one of them devotes her whole visiting time to this work in connection with the tuberculous population and their households. This nurse also assists at the local Chest Clinic of the Regional Hospital Board.

Each year some of the Health Visitors attend refresher courses arranged by the Royal College of Nursing, the Women Public Health Officers Association and other bodies, each Health Visitor receiving this training at least once every five years.

The Local Authority has a scheme of assisted training for suitable nurses desiring to obtain the Health Visitor's Certificate.

SECTION 25—HOME NURSING.

The existing establishment of 12 District Nurses including the Superintendent District Nurse is maintained by the employment of part time staff but most of the Home Nurses are full time and residential. The Superintendent has her headquarters at the Home at 2, Fairfield Lane, where most of the resident staff are located. There is also a two-nurse Home at 27, Mikasa Street, Walney. Eight cars are available for use and staff for whom no car is available walk or cycle.

The services of a Home Nurse are provided on medical recommendation only. The nurse co-operating with the general practitioner makes a morning visit as often as the condition of the case demands and in severe cases evening visits are also paid. There is no night nurse.

The main types of cases dealt with are medical (70%), surgical (22%) and others (notably gynaecological and tubercular).

Each year some of the District Nurses attend residential refresher courses arranged by the Queen's Institute or other recognised authorities, the arrangements being such that each nurse receives this training at least once every five years.

The Local Authority has accepted a scheme whereby certain State Registered Nurses are nominated for Queen's training at approved training centres.

SECTION 26—VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION.

The Local Authority provides facilities for immunisation against diphtheria and whooping cough and for vaccination to children under one year old. Although the arrangements are on a voluntary basis, parents are constantly encouraged by Health Visitors in the clinic and home to take advantage of these facilities. Organised effort is made to give each child primarily immunised a re-inforcing prophylactic injection at the age of 5.

General practitioners who participate in the arrangements undertake vaccination and immunisation in their surgeries or in the home.

At the Child Welfare Clinic two sessions each week are devoted exclusively to vaccination and immunisation. An assistant Medical Officer and a Health Visitor are on duty and clerical assistance is provided. Cases receive attention with or without appointment.

SECTION 27—AMBULANCE SERVICE.

The Chief Fire Officer acts as Ambulance Officer and is in charge of an ambulance fleet of six vehicles, 3 of which are fitted with radio telephones. The ambulance used for infectious cases is staffed by personnel from the Infectious Diseases Hospital and is garaged at that hospital. The ambulance can be summoned for removals by doctors, nurses and midwives, but a medical certificate is required before an out of town journey is authorised. Abuse of the service is rare and is limited as much as possible by close supervision of calls. Cars for the mental health service are hired from local taxi proprietors.

SECTION 28—PREVENTION OF ILLNESS, CARE AND AFTER CARE.

TUBERCULOSIS.

Provision of advice and assistance, nursing requisites, home visiting and co-operation with Industrial Medical Officers, Disablement Rehabilitation Officers and the National Assistance Board's Officers has continued throughout the year. As the Tuberculosis Health Visitor acts as clinic nurse there has been no difficulty in maintaining adequate liaison.

Arrangements exist for the protection of suitable contacts of tuberculous cases with B.C.G. vaccine.

OTHER ILLNESS.

The Health Visitors advise and assist in cases referred by hospitals and general practitioners. Residential accommodation is provided by arrangement with the Governors of Infield Convalescent Home.

LOAN CUPBOARDS.

This service is available to all bed patients nursed at home and sick room equipment such as bed pans, bed rests, fracture cages, rubber sheeting, air rings, may be loaned in any case where need exists. A limited number of wheel chairs for convalescent patients is also available. Applications are received at the Nurses' Home.

GENERAL.

The services of Domestic Helps and District Nurses are provided in suitable cases.

HEALTH EDUCATION.

In addition to verbal instruction and advice given by the staff suitable posters are displayed in places frequented by the public. Campaigns are conducted in schools and at clinics. Student Nurses are given every opportunity to see the public health services in action.

The local press co-operates in publishing items to which it is considered the public attention should be drawn. Notifications are received from the local general hospital of admissions of cases of burns and scalds. Such cases under the age of five are visited in their own homes by Health Visitors.

SECTION 29—DOMESTIC HELP.

The Superintendent Nursing Officer and Health Visitors undertake most of the field work in connection with the service. Helps are provided mainly in cases of confinement, illness of housewife or to infirm old people, but applications are occasionally received from other categories of person whose cases, on investigation, are found to come within the scope of the scheme. This is not a free service and charges are recovered according to the means of the applicant.

The names of persons suitable for this kind of work are registered and listed. Helps are allocated to cases as applications are received. This system works satisfactorily and it has not been found necessary to pay a retaining fee, as cases can usually be arranged so that helps have very little idle time.

SECTION 51—MENTAL HEALTH.

ADMINISTRATION.

COMMITTEE. The Health Committee, which comprises Council Members and co-opted representatives of the local medical profession, meets at monthly intervals to deal with matters affecting Mental Health.

STAFF. This section of the Department is staffed by two male Duly Authorised Officers. The vacancy for a female Psychiatric Social Worker remains unfilled. Administration and clerical duties are undertaken by the general office staff. The Assistant Medical Officers provide the medical assistance needed, and it is also possible to have assistance in certification from local practitioners. The visiting specialists from Lancaster Moor Hospital conduct a weekly out-patient clinic and in addition are available for consultation as required.

CO-ORDINATION. The Authority's Officers undertake the supervision of and reporting on cases on trial for licence or on licence and in addition prepare any other reports of home conditions, etc., required by Hospitals and Institutions.

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS. There are no voluntary organisations dealing with mental health in the area.

TRAINING OF STAFF. Duly Authorised Officers attend a training course when required.

ACCOUNT OF WORK UNDERTAKEN IN THE COMMUNITY.

PREVENTION, CARE AND AFTER CARE. All Health Visitors are alive to the special problems presented by the mentally ill and in the course of their duties give appropriate advice to those threatened with, suffering from, or recovering from mental illness. They refer details to the Mental Health section when necessary. They also advise those having custody of defective children. Concurrently the Authority's Medical and Lay Visiting Officers maintain supervision over cases under domiciliary care or on licence. Appropriate advice and assistance is given and arrangements are made for financial assistance to be granted by the National Assistance Board where applicable. New cases coming to the notice of the Authority's staff are immediately referred for specialist advice so that the condition may be dealt with in its early stages.

LUNACY AND MENTAL TREATMENT ACTS, 1890—1930. The Manchester Regional Hospital Board prohibits the admission of cases direct to Roose Hospital which is considered to be an annexe to Lancaster Moor Hospital. All cases are removed to Lancaster nearly 50 miles away in the first instance and this imposes a burden both on the Duly Authorised Officers and on the Ambulance Service.

Under the Lunacy Act, 1890, the Duly Authorised Officers issue three day orders, detaining persons of unsound mind in hospital, prepare summary reception orders and remove patients to mental hospitals. In addition the Duly Authorised Officers assist with arrangements for the treatment of voluntary and temporary patients. Case histories and reports on home conditions are prepared for the hospitals. Cases on licence etc., are supervised.

MENTAL DEFICIENCY ACTS, 1913—1938. Through the agency of the Duly Authorised Officers, field workers of the Public Health Department and of other social services and general practitioners, suspect mental defectives are brought to the notice of the Department. The majority of cases ascertained to be mental defectives are however reported by the Local Education Authority under Section 57 Education Act, 1944. Mental defectives receive statutory or voluntary supervision in their own homes and are visited routinely by a Duly Authorised Officer and an Assistant Medical Officer. Guardianship cases are similarly supervised. Suitable cases are placed on the waiting list for institutions. No provision exists as yet for the occupation or training of defectives.

AMBULANCE SERVICE. The general ambulance service is available for mental cases. Where necessary, one of the Authority's Duly Authorised Officers travels with the ambulance or car, and arrangements exist whereby mental nurses can be borrowed from Roose Hospital to accompany female or difficult patients.

HEALTH CENTRES.

No proposals for the provision of Health Centres have been made and in Barrow, there is no demand for the comprehensive centre envisaged by the Act.

CARE OF MOTHERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN.

WELFARE CENTRE.

There has been a slight decrease in the Birth Rate.

449 babies under 12 months and 63 older children were admitted to the register; whilst of the cases on the register, 4,559 attendances were made by the babies, 821 attendances were made by the one year olds and 771 attendances were made by children between the ages of 2 and 5 years.

MOBILE CLINIC

In addition to the foregoing, 307 babies under 12 months and 44 older children were admitted to the register at the Mobile Clinic during the year, and at that clinic 4,058 attendances were made by the babies, 733 attendances were made by the one year olds and 546 attendances were made by children between the ages of 2 and 5 years.

PREMATURE BABIES

During the year 84 premature babies were born alive, including 70 whose mothers usually reside within the area. 28 were born at home. 20 were retained at home and of these 17 survived. The remaining 3 died within 24 hours of birth. Of the 8 transferred to hospital 3 died within 24 hours of birth and the remaining 5 survived. Of the 56 born in hospital 6 died in the first 24 hours, 6 more died before the month end and the remaining 44 survived.

PREMATURE BIRTHS.

| | Died in 24 hours. | Died 1 day 1 month. | Survived 1 month. | Total. |
|---|----------------------|------------------------|----------------------|--------|
| Born at home and retained at home | 3 | .... | 17 | 20 |
| Born at home and transferred to Hospital | 3 | .... | 5 | 8 |
| Born in Hospital | 6 | 6 | 44 | 56 |
| Total | 12 | 6 | 66 | 84 |
| No. whose mothers usually reside in area | | | | 70 |

INFANT MORTALITY.

The Infant Mortality Rate of 29.34 per 1,000 births is the lowest yet recorded. The figures for the last 10 years are :

| | | |
|------|------|-------|
| 1945 | .... | 58.4 |
| 1946 | .... | 52.91 |
| 1947 | .... | 51.45 |
| 1948 | .... | 49.52 |
| 1949 | .... | 49.33 |
| 1950 | .... | 45.20 |
| 1951 | .... | 35.56 |
| 1952 | .... | 37.83 |
| 1953 | .... | 29.87 |
| 1954 | .... | 29.34 |

The 29 deaths from developmental defects include 5 malformations, 3 birth injury and 21 from other diseases peculiar to the first year of life. The remaining 5 deaths arose from 4 respiratory and 1 general condition

HEALTH VISITING.

The following table shows the work done in connection with mothers and children :—

| | | | | | | | |
|--|------|------|------|------|------|--------------|-------|
| (i) To expectant mothers | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | First visits | 806 |
| | | | | | | Total visits | 1189 |
| (ii) To children under 1 year of age | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | First visits | 1044 |
| | | | | | | Total visits | 10210 |
| (iii) To children between 1 and 2 years of age | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | Total visits | 6619 |
| (iv) To children between 2 and 5 years of age | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | Total visits | 8669 |

CARE OF UNMARRIED MOTHERS.

During the year 9 cases were admitted to St. Monica.

OPHTHALMIC TREATMENT.

57 children made 114 attendances and spectacles were prescribed in 31 cases.

The following is a classification of the conditions for which children attended the clinic.

Refractions—

| | | | | |
|---------------------------|------|------|------|---|
| Hypermetropic Astigmatism | .... | .... | .... | 3 |
| Hypermetropia | .... | .... | .... | 3 |
| Other Conditions | .... | .... | .... | 5 |

Squints—

| | | | | |
|-------------|------|------|------|----|
| Convergent | .... | .... | .... | 24 |
| Alternating | .... | .... | .... | 5 |

Treatments—

| | | | | |
|------------------|------|------|------|----|
| Dacryocystitis | .... | .... | .... | 11 |
| Other Conditions | .... | .... | .... | 6 |

DENTAL TREATMENT.

During the year 76 sessions were devoted to the treatment of expectant and nursing mothers and children under 5. 427 attendances were made by expectant and nursing mothers and 559 by children under 5.

The Council has no workshop for producing dentures, but the work is carried out by local mechanics.

Facilities for X-ray are available at North Lonsdale Hospital and during the year one mother attended for examination.

The following tables show the work done :—

| | Examined | Needing Treatment | Treated | Made Dentally Fit |
|-------------------------------|----------|-------------------|---------|-------------------|
| Expectant and Nursing Mothers | 132 | 128 | 131 | 100 |
| Children under 5 | 260 | 232 | 233 | 223 |

| | Scal-ings and Gum treat-ment | Fill-ings | Silver Nit-rate treat-ment | Crow-ns or In-lays | Ex-trac-tions | Gen-eral An-aesth-etics | Dentures Provided | | X-Ray |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------|----------------------------|--------------------|---------------|-------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|-------|
| | | | | | | | Full Upper or Lower | Par-tial Upper or Lower | |
| Expectant and Nursing Mothers | 57 | 80 | .... | .... | 247 | 3 | 22 | 15 | 1 |
| Children under 5 | .... | 12 | 153 | .... | 311 | 139 | .... | .... | .... |

ORTHOPAEDIC CLINIC.

87 children made 152 attendances on the 9 occasions on which the clinic was held.

80 children visited the Physiotherapist on 433 occasions for fitting of splints, plasters, etc.

MASSAGE AND REMEDIAL EXERCISES CLINICS.

55 patients attended for massage and made 644 attendances.

36 patients had remedial exercises in 310 attendances.

1 patient had radiant heat treatment in 31 attendances.

SUN RAY.

During the year 51 children under 5 made 342 attendances.

ANTE-NATAL CLINIC.

133 patients made 628 attendances in the year.

MIDWIFERY.

MUNICIPAL MIDWIVES.

It has only just been possible to maintain the number of staff at an adequate level to meet the demands of the service.

PRIVATE MIDWIVES.

One private nurse notified her intention to practice as a Midwife or Maternity Nurse. She undertook two confinements.

396 deliveries were attended by Midwives as follows:—

| | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|-------|
| Municipal—Midwives cases | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | 106 | } 394 |
| Maternity Nurses cases | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | 288 | |
| Gas-Air administered | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | 343 | |
| Private— | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | 2 |

SUPERVISION OF MIDWIVES.

The Medical Officer deputed to act as Supervisor of Midwives paid 57 visits in this connection. There were no irregularities necessitating proceedings.

Medical Aid was summoned in accordance with the rules of the Central Midwives Board in 36 cases. Two of these were cases who had booked a General Practitioner Obstetrician under arrangements of the Barrow Executive Council.

HOME NURSING

36,710 visits were paid to 1,535 patients.

VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION.

During the year, 276 persons have been vaccinated and 17 have been re-vaccinated under clinic arrangements. A further 162 vaccinations and 8 re-vaccinations have been reported by general practitioners.

No case of smallpox has been reported.

53 courses of immunisation against Diphtheria and 227 re-inforcing doses were administered at the clinic and 338 courses of immunisation and 27 re-inforcing doses were reported by General Practitioners.

131 whooping cough immunisations and 475 combined diphtheria and whooping cough immunisations were completed at the clinics.

No case of diphtheria occurred.

42.37% of the population under 5 and 19.84% of those from 5 to 14 years are estimated to have maximum immunity against diphtheria. A further 55.89% of these older children have been immunised but have not had their immunity strengthened by the administration of a re-inforcing injection.

AMBULANCE.

The ambulances answered 11,132 calls totalling 71,561 miles and carried 11,015 patients during the year. Cars conveyed 74 patients over a distance of 6,791 miles.

The ambulance fleet comprises a Commer (1953), a Commer (1951), a Daimler (1949), 2 Austins (1949) and a Bedford (1941).

PREVENTION OF ILLNESS, CARE AND AFTER CARE

TUBERCULOSIS

The general arrangements for tuberculosis prevention and care to which reference has already been made, remained unchanged during the year.

The Tuberculosis Health Visitor, in her dual role as clinic nurse to the Chest Physician, has every opportunity of ascertaining contacts of known cases and in all 236 contacts were examined at the Chest Clinic arising out of 76 new notified cases.

Information concerning deaths from unnotified tuberculous disease is given to the Tuberculosis Health Visitor who immediately ascertains contacts of the deceased.

Close co-operation between the Ministry of Labour, Industrial Medical Officers, the Chest Physician and the Health Department has facilitated the resettlement of patients in employment and the obtainment of suitable work and at the end of the year only 9 tuberculous persons (5 male, 4 female) out of a total of 71 (56 male, 15 female) on the Disabled Persons Register were unemployed.

There are no vocational training schemes operating in Barrow and great difficulty is experienced in getting patients to travel outside the area in order to attend. Similar difficulty arises when trying to place patients in employment outside the town.

DOMESTIC HELP.

273 cases were dealt with and 81 helps were in employment at the year end.

MENTAL HEALTH.

The following summary indicates work done by the Duly Authorised Officers.

SECTION 20, LUNACY ACT, 1890. 8 patients (7 male and 1 female) were removed to Roose Hospital on "three day" orders. Summary Reception Orders were prepared for these patients in respect of 2 males and 1 female who were transferred to Lancaster Moor Hospital.

Of the remaining 5 male patients, 3 were admitted to Lancaster Moor Hospital as voluntary patients and 2 were released.

17 patients (7 male and 10 female) were removed to Lancaster Moor Hospital on "three day" orders. Summary Reception Orders were issued by Magistrates for that area in respect of 2 females included in that number. 6 males and 7 females became voluntary patients.

OTHER REMOVALS. In addition to the cases listed above, 136 cases who had not been the subject of a Section 20 Order were admitted to hospital. They comprised 4 males and 13 females who would previously have been admitted to Roose Hospital for certification but who were dealt with in their own homes and removed to Lancaster Moor Hospital on Summary Reception Orders and 65 voluntary males and 54 voluntary females. Officers of the Authority escorted all the cases admitted under Orders and 35 of the 119 voluntary patients.

In all 77 journeys to Lancaster were made.

OTHER WORK. Case histories were prepared in respect of 85 cases.

Home conditions reports were submitted in respect of 7 proposed discharges and 7 reports were prepared on cases released or on trial.

MENTAL DEFICIENCY. 1 male and 2 females were reported by the Local Education Authority under Section 57(3), Education Act, 1944, and 5 males and 3 females under Section 57(5). The new cases were placed under statutory supervision.

The following table shows the disposal of ascertained defectives as at the year end together with details of the waiting list for institutional care at the same date.

| | Under 16 years | | 16 and over | |
|---|----------------|--------|-------------|--------|
| | Male | Female | Male | Female |
| Under Statutory Supervision | 7 | 6 | 40 | 28 |
| Under Guardianship | — | — | — | — |
| In Place of Safety | 1 | — | — | — |
| In Institutions | 5 | 2 | 52 | 52 |
| Under Voluntary Supervision | 4 | — | 3 | 12 |
| Included in the above, but awaiting institutional vacancies | 4 | 2 | — | 2 |

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948.

No action under Section 47 of this Act was taken during the year.

EPILEPTICS AND SPASTICS

As Epilepsy and Cerebral Palsy are not notifiable and as no records are kept of cases occurring in the Borough, no accurate assessment can be made of their incidence. Several departments offer special facilities according to the severity of the condition.

The Welfare Department has a scheme to cover handicapped persons generally. The Orthopaedic Clinic and the local office of the Ministry of Labour know of additional cases.

School children are dealt with as necessary through the School Health Service and Handicapped Pupils Regulations, 1953. In the case of epileptics and spastics not requiring special educational treatment, adequate facilities are available through the diagnostic and treatment services.

CIRCULAR 1/54—PARAGRAPH 5

There were 13 Forms B.D.8 received during the year. No case of retrolental fibroplasia was reported in a premature infant. One person blinded by glaucoma had received treatment for this condition.

FOLLOW-UP OF REGISTERED BLIND AND PARTIALLY SIGHTED PERSONS
1ST JANUARY—31ST DECEMBER, 1954

| (i) Number of cases registered during the year in respect of which para. 7(c) of Forms B.D.8. recommends :— | Cause of Disability | | | |
|---|---------------------|----------|-------------------------|--------|
| | Cataract | Glaucoma | Retrolental Fibroplasia | Others |
| (a) No treatment | 1 | — | 1 | 6 |
| (b) Treatment (medical surgical or optical) | 2 | 1 | — | 2 |
| (ii) Number of cases at (i) (b) above which on follow-up action have received treatment | — | — | — | — |

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM

There were no cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum notified during the year.

